

*Stated Meeting, April 7.*

Present, nine members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Corporation of Harvard College, dated Cambridge, Feb. 13, 1854, returning acknowledgments for Part 3, Vol. X: of the Transactions,—and for No. 50 of the Proceedings of the Society:—

From the Librarian of the Boston Society of Natural History, dated Boston, March 27, 1854, returning thanks for sundry Parts of the Transactions and Nos. of the Proceedings, which were wanting to complete the series in the library of that Society: and—

From the Secretary of l'Ecole des Mines, dated Paris, 30th Nov. 1853, accompanying a donation for the library.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Annales des Mines. V. Série. Tome IV. 4 livraison de 1853. Paris.

8vo.—*From the Engineers of l'Ecole des Mines.*

Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. Nos. 20, 21,

Jan. Feb. 1854. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Researches upon Nemerteans and Planarians. By Charles Girard.

I. Embryonic Development of Planocera Elliptica. Philadelphia, 1854. 4to.—*From the Author.*

American Journal of the Medical Sciences. No. LIV. New Series.

April, 1854. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Dr. Isaac Hays, Editor.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. XII. No. 136. April, 1854.

Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

Report of the Auditor General on the Finances of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the year ending Nov. 30, 1853. Harris-

burg. 8vo.—*From M. W. Baldwin, Esq.*

Astronomical Journal. Vol. III. Nos. 20, 21. March 16, April 3,

1854. Cambridge. 4to.—*From Dr. B. A. Gould, jr. Editor.*

The Plough, the Loom and the Anvil. Vol. VII. No. 3. March, 1854.

New York. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*

Annual Review: History of St. Louis, Commercial Statistics, Improvements of the year, and Account of the leading Manufactures, &c. Jan. 1854. St. Louis. 8vo.—*Donor unknown.*

Mr. Fraley announced the recent death of Sir James Wylie, of St. Petersburg, a member of this Society, aged 85 years.

In connection with this announcement, Dr. F. Bache mentioned to the Society that on his late visit to Europe he called upon Sir James Wylie, in St. Petersburg, and in conversation with Sir James, on the events of his long and active life, that gentleman referred to a brief account of the principal incidents in his public and official career as a military surgeon in the Russian service, written by himself; of which paper he kindly permitted Dr. Bache to take a copy. This paper was read to the Society.

Judge Kane referred to the unusual number of icebergs in the Atlantic during the last few months, as reported by recent navigators. He infers, from this, that the spring of 1853, in the Arctic regions, was more mild, or the Arctic waters more open than usual,—this floating ice coming from Baffin's bay;—and considers that from this apparent indication of the season in the northern regions, we have reason to suppose that Dr. Kane may have made more progress in his Arctic explorations than could have been done in an ordinary season.

The Judge illustrated his remarks by reference to a recent chart of the Arctic regions, with regard to the geographical and physical features of the coast in that portion of the globe.

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*Stated Meeting, April 21.*

Present, thirteen members.

Judge KANE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, dated Nov. 1, 1853; from the Central Physical Observatory of Russia, dated St. Petersburg, Dec. 13, 1853; from the Royal Geographical Society of London, dated 3 Waterloo Place, Dec.